

Architectural And Historic Survey



Identification

STREET ADDRESS: 228 Fourteenth Street N.W.
 MAP & PARCEL: 4-293
 CENSUS TRACT AND BLOCK: 2-313
 PRESENT ZONING: R-3
 ORIGINAL OWNER: Mattie F. Connell
 ORIGINAL USE: Residence
 PRESENT USE: Rental Property (3 apartments)
 PRESENT OWNER: Donald L. and Marina I. McGrady
 ADDRESS: 530 North First Street
 Charlottesville, Virginia

HISTORIC NAME: McConnell-Neve House
 DATE / PERIOD: c. 1894
 STYLE: Victorian
 HEIGHT (to cornice) OR STORIES: 2 stories
 DIMENSIONS AND LAND AREA: 54.8' x 147' avg. (8056 sq. ft.)
 CONDITION: Good
 SURVEYOR: Bibb
 DATE OF SURVEY: Spring 1980
 SOURCES: City Records
 Donald L. McGrady

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

A high-pitched hip roof, irregular silhouette, and slender three-storey tower with steep pyramidal roof give this picturesque house a touch of the Chateausque Style. The house is two-stories tall and three bays wide with projecting pavillions on the facade and south side and an original 1½-storey south wing housing the stair hall. The projection on the facade is two bays wide, and the tower projects from it at the northwest corner of the house. The house has a high-pitched hip roof covered with standing-seam metal, painted red, with Philadelphia gutters and boxed cornice. It is pierced by two interior chimneys. There are gables with circular attic vents above both projecting pavillions. The stair hall wing extends beyond the adjacent projecting pavillion and has a very steep shed roof. The house is set on a low concrete foundation. The walls are weatherboarded except for the tower, the gables, and the stair hall wing, all of which are covered with wooden shingles. The original color scheme is not known; all wall surfaces are now painted white. Windows are double-sash, 1-over-1 light, with plain trim. They are the same height at both levels. The slender 3-storey octagonal tower has narrow windows on five sides at the first and second levels and diamond-shaped air vents at the third level. It has a very steep pyramidal metal roof with finial and cornice brackets. A small one-storey entrance porch covers the southern bay of the facade and extends slightly beyond the adjacent projecting bay. It has a medium-pitched shed roof covered with standing-seam metal and bracketed Eastlake posts without a balustrade. The entrance door has one large rectangular transom. The floor plan is irregular. The 2-flight open-well stair in the stair hall on the south side of the house, adjacent to the small entrance hall, was partially enclosed when the house was divided into apartments. The shed-roofed back porch has been partially enclosed.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

Mattie F. Connell (Mrs. L. W. Connell) bought this lot in McKennie's Addition in 1892 (City DB 3-491). Tax records indicate that the house was built c. 1894. Mrs. Connell sold it in 1903 to Isabel Rives Wolfe (DB 14-499) who sold it to F. W. Neve in 1907 (DB 18-133). He owned the house for 42 years and apparently used it as rental property. The house had ten different owners between 1949 and 1971, when the present owners purchased it (DB 146-456, 151-232, 172-119, 188-403, 199-191, 220-85, 230-324, 280-213, 312-476, 328-192). It has usually been used as rental property and has now been divided into three apartments.

SIGNIFICANCE

This is a fine example of the Victorian style. Its slender octagonal tower, steep roof, and irregular silhouette give it a touch of the Chateausque style.

UTM: 17/720010/4212610